Application Number 10/644,484 Responsive to Office Action mailed December 18, 2006

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and constitutes the required submission. A Notice of Appeal was filed for this case on March 5, 2007. This Amendment and the RCE withdraws the current Appeal and re-opens prosecution of this case, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.114(d).

Applicant has amended claims 1, 11, 12, 15, 23 and 27; canceled claim 10; and added new claims 28-30. Claims 1, 7-9, 11-13, 15, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 27-30 are now pending.

New claims 28-30 find support in Applicant's original disclosure in FIG. 9 and paragraphs [0048]-[0051], and in FIGS. 11-12 and paragraphs [0055]-[0059].

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in parallel with this Amendment. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement that is being submitted in parallel with this Amendment.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration by the Examiner and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 09-0069. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

Date:

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